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JEFF HARPER/METRO



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## Santa's suspension

NEW WATERFORD

### Firefighters told to leave school as they hand out treats

A Nova Scotia fire chief says members of his department — including one dressed as Santa — were just trying to bring some holiday cheer to a local school when they were politely asked to leave because of an ongoing labour dispute.

Raymond Eksal of the Scotchtown Volunteer Fire Department says three firefighters were visiting Greenfield Elementary School in New Waterford to hand out seasonal treats on Monday morning as classes started.

But he says he didn't realize their presence violated work-to-rule conditions being followed

by the Nova Scotia Teachers Union, which says that during the labour dispute teachers are only focused on teaching and this means no guests in the classroom.

"The principal came out and just informed us she had been contacted by a representative from the union. Someone had called the union I guess and ... she was told we were in violation of the work to rule and we had to leave," explained Eksal.

He added she explained the situation "very politely," and the three firefighters quietly departed.

"The principal was very gracious. It's terrible the way people are going on about this. We were simply trying to be nice to the kids, to have a good relationship with the kids," Eksal said.

Eksal says the firefighters had already handed out candy canes to students in about six classes

in the primary to Grade 6 school before the principal asked them to leave.

Teachers in the province are in the third week of a work-to-rule campaign, which has included the cancellation of all extracurricular activities, field trips, concerts and sports.

The firefighter said he knew the Christmas concert was cancelled due to the labour disruption, but had incorrectly assumed dropping off goodies wouldn't pose a problem.

"We normally do the parking for their Christmas concert. We knew that was cancelled due to the work-to-rule, which we could understand ... but I guess there was something lost in the translation ... we didn't realize it was also cancelling Santa Claus," he said.

The president of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union said she wasn't available for an inter-

view, but emailed a statement.

"During work-to-rule, teachers are only focused on teaching. This means guest speakers are not permitted in the classroom," said Liette Doucet in the email. "That being said, at the discretion of the school board, there is nothing preventing Santa from visiting the students during their lunch hour."

The superintendent of the school board was not immediately available for comment.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Decking the halls proves out of the question for firefighters spreading Christmas cheer at Greenfield Elementary School in New Waterford during the teachers' work-to-rule campaign. GETTY IMAGES

EDUCATION

## Teachers and province are still at table



Zane Woodford  
Metro | Halifax

Nova Scotia's Premier Stephen McNeil had no update Tuesday on the progress of talks between the government and two of the province's largest public sector unions.

Negotiations are underway this week between the government and the Nova Scotia Teachers Union (NSTU) and between

the government and the Nova Scotia Government and Employees Union (NSGEU).

"They're ongoing," he said. "They're meeting at the table and we look forward to finding a resolution and hopefully we can do that."

The NSTU, which represents about 9,000 teachers, agreed to resume talks after a second week of work-to-rule job action.

McNeil wrote in a letter last week that action has been "disruptive" for the education

system, urging the two sides to come to the table "with open minds and reasonable perspectives."

NSTU president Liette Doucet said in a release last week she was hopeful that McNeil's letter "signals a new approach from his government."

The NSGEU, which represents 7,600 civil servants, requested a return to talks last Thursday, a day after members rejected a tentative agreement by 94 per cent.

Originally, the executive rec-



**We look forward to finding a resolution.**

Premier Stephen McNeil

ommended members accept the agreement, but reversed its position after teachers rejected a similar deal and the province readied wage legislation.

LANGUAGE

## Province, Quebec sign deal on francophonie

The governments of Quebec and Nova Scotia have signed a co-operation agreement aimed at preserving Canada's French-speaking communities.

It commits them to increase funding for projects aimed at ensuring the vitality of the French language and meeting at least every two years to discuss the status of the Canadian francophonie.

Quebec signed a similar declaration with Ontario in 2014 and with the governments of Manitoba, Yukon and New Brunswick.

"The agreement will help francophone community-based organizations exchange information and expertise for projects that promote the French language," said Michel Samson, Nova Scotia's minister of Acadian affairs. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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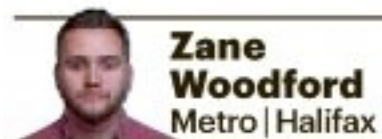




# Province crafts beer fee

ALCOHOL SALES

## Unfiltered Brewing files lawsuit to scrap 'illegal tax'



**Zane Woodford**  
Metro | Halifax

The province announced changes Tuesday to a fee charged to craft brewers to level the playing field for Nova Scotia's alcohol manufacturers, but that's not stopping one brewer's efforts to have it scrapped altogether.

Premier Stephen McNeil announced at a press conference in Halifax that his government was changing the NSLC's Retail Sales Mark-up Allocation (RSMA) charged to craft brewers from 50 cents per litre to five per cent of wholesale — the structure currently used to charge craft distillers and wineries.

The Craft Brewers Association of Nova Scotia had been calling on the government to make the change for more than a year.

"This was the recommendation from the entire industry," McNeil said. "Really it was to bring it in line with the wine and spirits industry in the province, and for us, it's about trying to treat people equally."

Emily Tipton, president of the Craft Brewers Association of Nova Scotia and a founding partner of Boxing Rock Brewing Company, said the change would give brewers "a little bit more leeway to be able to reinvest in our businesses."

The RSMA is expected to bring in \$1.2 million this fiscal year.

The government says the



Premier Stephen McNeil speaks at Garrison Brewing on Tuesday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

change, effective April 2017, will put \$800,000 back into the pockets of brewers.

Tipton estimates savings of about 50 per cent — \$600,000.

But one Halifax brewer is fighting to reclaim 100 per cent of the RSMA.

Unfiltered Brewing, which is not a member of the Craft Brewers Association of Nova Scotia, is taking the issue to the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia, hoping to have the RSMA ruled unconstitutional.

Unfiltered partner Andrew Murphy said the change announced Tuesday will

### COURT DATE

Unfiltered Brewing will be in Nova Scotia Supreme Court in January hoping to stop paying the RSMA and recover the approximately \$35,000 it has paid the NSLC.

"absolutely not" stop his legal action.

"What they're saying is they're reducing what is in our opinion an illegal tax," he said.

Murphy's lawyer, Richard

Norman said the big issue is whether the RSMA is a tax, arguing the NSLC, a Crown corporation, doesn't have the power to levy taxes.

When asked Tuesday what craft brewers — and distillers and wineries — get for the RSMA, McNeil said, "Well, like every Nova Scotian you get the investments in all the facilities and services that we as Nova Scotians cherish. Whether it's quality public education, health care, investments back into communities, transportation, it becomes part of that."

To Norman, that sounds

like a tax.

"One of the qualities is definitely that the money that is raised from the fee, whatever it is, goes into the public coffers to do exactly what the Premier says, which is fund anything it wants it to fund," he said.

Tipton disagrees that the RSMA is a tax, and said craft brewers pay for the "privilege" to sell their own booze.

"There's no direct service that we get for the payment of that fee, but at the same time that fee exists because we are alcohol manufacturers," she said.

## Health care talks with feds continue

Premier Stephen McNeil remains unfazed that the provinces were unable to come to a health care agreement with the federal government earlier this week.

At an event on Tuesday, McNeil said talks between the two levels of government are ongoing, despite the federal government's assertion that there would be no further talks if the provinces walked away from the table.

On Monday, the federal government offered \$11 billion in funding over 10 years targeted at home care and mental health care, plus \$544 million over five years for prescription drugs, on top of a 3.5 per cent annual increase in health transfers.

Before negotiations began, the federal government said if the provinces didn't take their deal, they'd revert back to a previous one: three per cent increases in health transfers and \$3 billion for home care.

McNeil didn't like that approach, described by some as an "ultimatum," but believes a deal can be reached.

"Obviously that's not helpful," he said. "But I think it's important to recognize that at these meetings people get frustrated."

McNeil said the province still has unanswered questions about the nature of the targeted funding.

"We need to make sure that if they're gonna target it, it's long term funding that's there, not something that happens for the next five years or 10 years and then it's not there to sustain a program or a service that we put in place," he said.

ZANE WOODFORD/METRO

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# Haligonians on board with city's 'rapid change': Study

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

## Bridging gap between old and new is the key, says councillor



**Adina Bresge**  
For Metro | Halifax

Contrary to the stereotype of Atlantic Canada as a region "stuck in its ways," Haligonians tend to welcome change in their neighbourhoods, a study has found.

In recent years, Halifax has experienced rapid economic, social and structural transformation, and according to researchers at Dalhousie University, many locals see that as a good thing.

"The majority of Haligonians are actually quite open to change," sociology professor Howard Ramos says.

"Counter to a lot of the narratives, there's a lot that's going on in this city ... I think embracing that change is important as Halifax goes forward."

Ramos and a team of social scientists surveyed hundreds of people in Halifax Regional Municipality about perceptions of change in their neighbourhoods.

In the study published in *The Canadian Geographer* this fall, a slight majority of respondents reported that the area they lived in seemed more or less same as

it was five or 10 years ago, but of those who noticed shifts in their surroundings, the changes were generally well-received.

Around one third of respondents felt their neighbourhood's financial prospects had improved amid transitions into a more knowledge-based economy, whereas 10 per cent felt they were worse off.

The study found that 36 per cent of people embraced cultural change in their communities, while just six per cent opposed it.

The changes that were most obvious — like the construction of new buildings — earned the highest approval rating.

More than half of respondents viewed structural changes in their neighbourhood as a net positive and only two per cent of people objected to the renovations.

“

**When you look at the historic community, they're feeling left behind with the new changes.**

Coun. Lindell Smith

those areas."

For that vocal group of people fighting to preserve Halifax's heritage, the threat of development seems almost existential. The United Memorial Church in the north end was built after the wreckage of the Halifax Explosion, and today, people are fighting to prevent the landmark from being torn down.

For Coun. Lindell Smith, the

"Most people like to see new things popping up," Ramos said. "The people who lobby against development often tend to be in the peninsula and tend to be well-mobilized ... (but) there's a whole bunch of people who aren't living in

### BY THE NUMBERS

**36%**

The percentage of Haligonians who embraced cultural change in their communities.

**10%**

10 per cent of respondents felt that their financial prospects were worse off than they were before.

**2%**

Only two per cent of those surveyed objected to the structural changes and renovations in their neighbourhood.

challenge in District 8 is blending the old with the new.

"When you look at the historic community that's been there for a long time, they're feeling left behind with the new changes," Smith said in an interview.

"The makeup of the neighbourhood is changing, not just because new businesses or new buildings are popping up, but because the sense of community ownership ... is being lost."

Smith hesitates to use 'the G-word' — gentrification — but said he's working on a project to bridge the gap between "two separate north ends" into one community.



**Above:** The media takes in the view during a tour of the Nova Centre in May.

**Below:** Coun. Lindell Smith. PHOTOS BY JEFF HARPER

The push and pull between change and resistance has plagued Halifax "forever," Smith said. The key is to engage the community so that Halifax can evolve alongside its citizenry.

"We feel Halifax undergoing rapid change and it's important to facilitate a discussion about what people feel about it," Ramos said. "That's what's going to allow us to navigate our future in a more informed way."

The telephone survey of 411 Halifax residents was conducted between Nov. 2014 and March 2015 with a 95 per cent confidence level and a sampling error of 0.025.



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## WEATHER

# Single lightning bolt strikes two homes

At about 11 a.m. Sunday, houses throughout Liverpool and beyond shook when a huge clap of thunder hit the town.

Just prior to that, a bolt of lightning came down, and hit two homes simultaneously — one on School Street and one on Church Street.

According to RCMP, a man on Church Street was transported to Queens General Hospital with minor injuries from the strike.

Steve Parnell, chief of the Liverpool Fire Department, said

firefighters responded to both calls, and inspected the homes with an infrared laser to ensure there was no fire. Both homes were declared clear shortly after.

Parnell said it was extremely unusual because there was no lightning storm occurring at the time, although it was raining heavily.

Bob Robichaud, a meteorologist with Environment Canada in Halifax, says it is unusual to have only one lightning bolt and one clap of thunder, but it does

happen. "It's on our map here. Probably right over the south-eastern part of town, a strike at 10:57 Sunday morning."

Robichaud says there were strikes further up the coast, but that was the only lightning over the area at the time.

"You can have thunderstorms that will only produce one discharge, and throughout that whole air mass yesterday, it was really unstable, we were getting some pockets of heavy showers, and within those pock-

ets of heavy showers, you can get a localized thunder storm."

He says there is a lot of static electricity that builds up in towering clouds, and when it builds up enough, that charge has to be discharged.

"The fact that we had a very warm moist air mass coming up from the south, the air that was over Nova Scotia originated in the tropics, it's a good environment for thunderstorms to develop."

TC MEDIA



Christopher Calvin Garnier, seen entering Halifax provincial court in September 2015, is facing a charge of second-degree murder in the death of a Truro police officer. METRO FILE

## Garnier is out on bail

## CRIME

### Man accused of killing officer goes on trial in November

A man accused of killing an off-duty Nova Scotia police officer more than a year ago has been released on bail, about 11 months before his case goes to trial.

The province's Public Prosecution Service confirmed Christopher Calvin Garnier was granted bail Tuesday in Nova Scotia Supreme Court.

Garnier is facing a charge of second-degree murder in the death of Truro police officer Const. Catherine Campbell.

The 28-year-old Halifax resident was also charged with interfering with a dead body after Campbell's remains were found in September 2015 near the base of an overpass in Halifax.

Campbell had served as a Truro police constable for six years before she died.

Garnier's trial is scheduled to begin on Nov. 20, 2017.

A publication ban remains



Const. Catherine Campbell. CONTRIBUTED

in effect regarding all evidence discussed at the bail hearing, as well as a preliminary hearing that took place earlier this year.

Campbell also served as a volunteer firefighter for 10 years in her hometown of Stellarton.

Her family has said she held a variety of jobs in the community before deciding to train as a police officer, finding a job in Truro as soon as she graduated.

During her funeral in Stellarton, more than a hundred police officers and firefighters lined the main street of her hometown as her coffin was carried to the Presbyterian church.

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### CLARIFICATION

In a Dec. 20th article titled "City being armed with naloxone kits," it incorrectly stated there were 49 deaths due to fentanyl in Nova Scotia this year. In

fact, there were 49 deaths due to opioids in the first eight months of this year, only seven of which were fentanyl. Metro regrets the error.






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# Extra gains, pains for the musicians

## RESEARCH

## Holiday concerts can cause repetitive strain injuries



**Kevin Maimann**  
Metro | Edmonton

Many classical musicians get the same things for Christmas: A lot of extra work and a lot of extra injuries.

Indeed, one occupational therapist at the University of Alberta, who also plays the oboe, is using her experience with musical-induced injuries as inspiration to for new research into the strange spike in injuries that musicians face each year at Christmas.

Christine Guptill said the holiday season puts extra strain on the musically inclined — especially classical musicians in high demand for Christmas themed concerts — and this often leads to injuries.

"Just imagine you were working out. You have your regular workout routine and then all of a sudden someone tells you (that) you should be working out an extra 40 hours a week," said Guptill.

Guptill said musicians in general face more work-related injuries than people in most other occupations, and those injuries peak this time of year.



**A lot of musicians get heavily into what they're doing and they're not necessarily athletic types.**

Christine Guptill

Most, like tendinitis and nerve compression, are related to repetitive strain. Some, like focal dystonia, are almost unique to musicians.

"A lot of musicians get heav-

ily into what they're doing and they're not necessarily athletic types, and so they didn't necessarily get the background they should have in how you can protect yourself from these things," said Guptill, who has suffered several injuries as an oboist.

A recent Australian study showed 84 per cent of musicians had physical problems related to playing their instrument at some point in their career.

Popular shows like Nutcracker will run multiple times in a weekend over the holidays, and while the dancers will often take shifts, musicians will not.

With a tendency toward freelancing in the music world, most take on extra work whenever they can get it.

Guptill said it's important to have good posture when practising, not to spend too long hammering over the same difficult passage, and to take frequent breaks.

"About every half hour, people should be taking a five-minute break. If you're injured it should be more frequent," she said.



Dr. Christine Guptill, who plays the oboe, is urging musicians not to overwork themselves this year. KEVIN MAIMANN/METRO

## Lawsuit challenges pipeline approval

Conservation groups have filed a new court challenge to the federal government's approval of the Trans Mountain oil pipeline.

The request for judicial review filed with the Federal Court of Appeal late Monday in Calgary is at least the eighth legal test of the controversial project, which will almost triple the capacity of an existing, 1,150-kilometre pipeline from near Edmonton to Burnaby, B.C.

The Liberal government gave the green light to the \$6.8-billion expansion last month, despite a thicket of existing legal challenges to the regulatory process.

Ecojustice lawyers, on behalf of the Living Oceans Society and Raincoast Conservation, say Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's cabinet broke the law when it relied on a National Energy Board assessment of Kinder Morgan's controversial pipeline expansion.

The groups argue the board — and thus the Liberal government — did not properly take into account the Trans Mountain pipeline's impact on endangered southern resident killer whales.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## SATURNA ISLAND

## Crew stranded off B.C. coast receives some Christmas cheer



Crew members from the Philippines talk as volunteers deliver food, supplies and gifts to the stranded crew of the Hanjin Scarlet container ship on Tuesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The stranded crew of an empty container ship tied up in an international bankruptcy issue received a shipment of donated holiday cheer Tuesday, including a Christmas tree, a 20-kilogram pig and 90 kilograms of barbecue coals.

Several maritime labour groups and members of Victoria's Filipino community gathered up more than a tonne of Christmas provisions for the 16-member crew of the 255-metre Hanjin Scarlet, anchored off Saturna Island, about 70 kilometres northeast

of Victoria.

"It's lonely," said sailor Romeo Cabacang from the Philippines. "But all the crew, we are very happy for the early Christmas gift. We are very happy."

Cabacang, 40, who is married with two children in Manila, said he's been on board the ship for 10 months, but doesn't know when that

will change.

The South Korean and Filipino crew members have been technically homeless at sea since August, anchoring for months at a time outside Prince Rupert, Vancouver and the Southern Gulf Islands. They are being paid, but

say they can't afford to leave the ship and their jobs.

The ship's captain, Jaewon

Lee from South Korea, said his crew is in good shape and is patiently awaiting the bankruptcy issues to be resolved.

He said the crew is not going to shore because they need their rest and want to save money.

"Everybody well. Nothing problem," Lee said in broken English. He added the ship has a solid Internet connection, which allows his crew to stay in touch with their families.

Lee said he expects the crew to roast the pig on Christmas Eve. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# 'Public pressure works'

## HUMAN RIGHTS

### Beauty queen puts spotlight on alleged organ trade in China

Anastasia Lin says when she first learned about allegations the Chinese government was harvesting organs from religious prisoners to fuel its transplant industry, she decided to use an unconventional platform to raise awareness.

Lin spoke out about the alleged plight of Falun Gong practitioners in China while taking part in the 2015 Miss World Canada beauty pageant, which she won. Since then, she has become an outspoken critic of the Chinese government.

"To not do anything is just so wrong," said Lin, 26, who is based in Toronto but spent her teenage years in Vancouver after emigrating from China with her mother.

"Public pressure works. We have way more leverage than we think we do," she said. "We might think that China is this big, tough bully that just doesn't



Anastasia Lin, Miss World Canada winner, is speaking out about human rights abuses in China. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

listen to anyone. But that's not true."

Falun Gong is a spiritual practice that emerged in China in the early 1990s, but by the end of the decade it had prompted a crackdown by the Chinese Communist Party. Falun Gong spokesman Joel Chipkar alleges the persecution was prompted by the organization's unwillingness to cede control to the Chinese government.

Reports from human rights organizations such as Amnesty

International have emerged of thousands of imprisoned Falun Gong followers being executed for their body organs.

Multiple requests for comment to the Chinese Embassy in Ottawa and the Chinese Consulate in Vancouver went unanswered.

Lin said she was originally inspired to take a stand on the issue by the advocacy work of former Miss World Canada Nazanin Afshin-Jam, who is married to former federal attorney

general Peter MacKay.

In 2015, Lin was declared persona non grata by the Chinese government and barred from entering China when she tried to travel there to represent Canada in that year's Miss World pageant.

Miss World 2016 took place in Washington, D.C., and this year Lin was able to take part.

"My one goal was not the tiara," Lin said. "I just wanted to be on Chinese television. ... If they can see me on stage they will know (I have not given up), so neither should they."

She also wanted to be seen by her father, who she said has been barred from leaving China because of her activism.

Miss World 2016 wrapped up last weekend, with the contestant from Puerto Rico taking the crown.

Chipkar, a Toronto-based spokesman for Falun Gong, applauded Lin for helping shed light on the organ-harvesting allegations.

"Any awareness to these crimes is like a light bulb that comes on in a dark room," Chipkar said. "As soon as the light comes on, the darkness disappears." THE CANADIAN PRESS

## MEXICO

### 29 dead, scores injured in blast at fireworks market

An explosion ripped through Mexico's best-known fireworks market on the northern outskirts of the capital Tuesday, killing at least 29 people, injuring scores more and sending a huge plume of charcoal-grey smoke billowing into the sky.

Mexican Federal Police announced via its official Twitter account what it called the preliminary toll from the afternoon blast at the open-air San Pablito Market in Tultepec.

"My condolences to the families of those who lost their lives in this accident and my wishes for a quick recovery for the injured," said President Enrique Peña Nieto via Twitter.

Sirens wailed and a heavy scent of gunpowder lingered in the air after the afternoon blast at the market, where most of the fireworks stalls were completely levelled. The smoking, burned out shells of vehicles



Smoke billows from a fireworks market in Mexico. TWITTER

ringed the perimeter, and first responders and local residents wearing blue masks over their mouths combed through the rubble and ash.

The Mexican Red Cross said it sent 10 ambulances with 50 paramedics to the scene.

National Civil Protection Coordinator Luis Felipe Puente told Milenio television that some nearby homes were also damaged. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## RUSSIA & TURKEY

### An age of co-operation may follow assassination

The assassination of Russia's ambassador to Turkey could actually bring the two regional powers closer together, with Russia reaping political benefits by arguing that it has paid a high price for fighting terrorism as Turkey, embarrassed by its security breaches, increasingly co-ordinates with Russia in neighbouring Syria.

The two nations were already trying to resolve their differences over the war in Syria since Turkey shot down a Russian military jet

along the Syrian border last year.

The measured reactions to the killing Monday night of Ambassador Andrei Karlov by a Turkish policeman in Ankara shows they want to stay on the path toward reconciliation.

The prospect of closer ties between Russian President Vladimir Putin and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan could have implications for the West, which has had contentious relations with both leaders. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## BERLIN

### Daesh claims responsibility for truck attack

Daesh claimed responsibility Tuesday for a truck attack on a crowded Berlin Christmas market that German authorities said came right out of the extremist group's playbook, inflicting mass casualties on a soft target fraught with symbolic meaning.

The Monday night attack on the popular market by the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church in the heart of former West Berlin left 12 dead and 48 injured, the first mass casualty attack by Islamic extremists carried out on German soil. German security forces were still hunting for the perpetrator after releasing a man from custody for lack of evidence.

The claim of responsibility carried on Daesh's Amaq news agency described the man seen fleeing from the truck as "a soldier" of Daesh who "carried out the attack in response to calls for targeting citizens of the Crusader coalition."

Germany is not involved in anti-Daesh combat operations, but has jets and a refuelling plane in Turkey in support of the coalition fighting militants in Syria.

The claim of responsibility came not long after prosecutors said they had released a man picked up near the scene of the attack, initially suspected of driving the truck. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Photographers deserve recognition



Eduardo Lima  
Metro | Toronto

There's a lot I'll never know about the photographers who captured the assassination of Russian Ambassador Andrei Karlov.

I don't know how brave they are, and I can't imagine what went through their minds as Mevlut Mert Altintas opened fire at a run-of-the-mill press event.

What I do know is this: Bravery is not the only factor involved in being able to take pictures in an unexpected situation. It's also professionalism.

The settings on their cameras were perfect. The framing is almost cinematic. And they didn't flinch even once. Standing less than five metres away from a man who could have taken their lives, Burhan Ozbilici and Yavuz Alatan held their ground and did their jobs.

As photographers, we love taking pictures and as photo-

journalists, we relish the opportunity to record history. There's an invisible switch that photographers flip once a camera is in our hands. It makes us aware of everything around us and it makes them eager to climb trees, jump fences, lay flat on our stomachs, just for the sake of a picture.

Ozbilici and Alatan will both be likely candidates to win a prize from the World Press Photo Foundation next year. But, beyond that, they drew attention this week to the thousands of photographers who've dedicated their lives to making the pictures that make history.

Bravery aside, their excellence deserves our recognition.

Eduardo Lima is Metro Toronto's chief photographer. He has worked on projects in Southeast Asia, Africa and the Middle East and won multiple awards for his work.

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BlackBerry has reached deals with partners who will design, manufacture and distribute phones that use BlackBerry's software in most of the world. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

# BlackBerry's head hails shift in focus

## TECHNOLOGY

### Most revenue now comes from software and services

BlackBerry's CEO shrugged off a \$117-million US third-quarter loss, saying the former smartphone maker turned software firm is no longer in turn-around mode and will grow its software revenue faster than the market next year.

"Everything that we have to do in order to address the, kind of, the downdraft of the business, we addressed," John Chen told reporters Tuesday.

The Waterloo, Ont.-based firm completed a number of significant milestones as part of its strategic transformation to exit the hardware business, he said.

It inked two deals with partners that will design, manufacture and distribute phones that use BlackBerry's software in most of the world. A third one is in the works for India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, Chen said. BlackBerry receives royalties, which could boost its mobility solutions revenue that has struggled amid lacklustre hardware sales.

The company is also trying to position itself in the burgeoning market of self-driving vehicles, and on Monday it opened a research centre for autonomous cars in Ottawa.

It has also announced a new platform, BlackBerry Secure, that integrates all of the company's recent acquisitions and intends to help companies reliably manage their current and future connectivity needs, like keeping tabs on all their devices.

Still, the transformation has yet to eliminate BlackBerry's

losses before adjustments.

BlackBerry, which reports in U.S. dollars, says its latest quarterly loss amounted to 22 cents per share. That compared with a loss of \$89 million or 17 cents per share a year ago.

Revenue was \$289 million, down from \$548 million a year earlier. With adjustments, revenue for the quarter was \$301 million. The majority of adjusted revenue — about 55 per cent — came from BlackBerry's new focus of software and services, which brought in \$164 million, an increase of \$8 million from the previous quarter and \$10 million from the same quarter last year.

It wasn't enough to offset declines in other areas.

But Chen remains confident the company's new focus will pay off, anticipating 30 per cent growth in software and services for the full financial year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## market minute



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## MERGER

### Facebook accused of misleading watchdog

The European Commission is investigating whether Facebook gave misleading information about its takeover of mobile messaging service WhatsApp two years ago.

The Commission, the EU's merger and anti-trust watchdog, is concerned that Facebook can match its users' accounts with WhatsApp user accounts.

The company said in 2014 that it could not do this. But Facebook's August terms of service and privacy update sug-

gest it can, according to the Commission.

Facebook could face fines of up to 1 per cent of its turnover if those suspicions are confirmed.

The August update could allow a link-up between WhatsApp phone numbers and Facebook user identities, which could help Facebook offer better "friend" suggestions or display more relevant ads on the Facebook page of a WhatsApp user.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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## JESSICA ALLEN ON SILVER-SCREEN ESCAPISM



### I know a thing or two about nostalgia and I am sensitive to others using my weakness to emotionally manipulate me.

My Christmas tree lights conked out the other night. They were a multi-coloured set that cast a soft, foggy glow, like the tree lights from my childhood, probably because they are literally the tree lights from my childhood. I can't bring myself to replace them with those new, garishly bright (and safer) LED lights. So the tree sits in darkness.

This all goes to say that I know a thing or two about nostalgia. Yes, I take it too seriously, which is why I am sensitive to others using my weakness to emotionally manipulate me. For example: *Stranger Things*, the thrilling sci-fi Netflix series set in the '80s that provided a quick fix of that decade's greatest cultural hits. But when the buzz wore off, it felt a little superficial — like high-end audio equipment that's deliberately designed to look like a radio from the '20s. That's nostalgia in a nutshell: It makes you melancholy for a time you'll never get back, or even for a time you didn't exist in.

And now there's *La La Land*, which opens on Christmas Day, to contend with. Even if you don't follow award blogs, you know that the film, written and directed by Damien Chazelle, is — alongside *Moonlight* and *Manchester By the Sea* — an Oscar contender for best picture. But when the masses tell me I'm going to love

something, my knee-jerk reaction is to hate it.

"Though bathed in affection for the song-and-dance magic of vintage Hollywood" Brian D. Johnson of *Maclean's* recently wrote, "it has a keen contemporary edge. As both a musical and rom-com, *La La Land* subverts as many conventions as it

I successfully willed myself to hate *La La Land* for approximately 30 seconds, when I looked down and saw my feet tapping to the music. And although I was distracted by the overly produced dubbing during the big group musical numbers, not to mention Gosling having at least one hand in his pocket

ways to offer escape from the reality of the Depression and the rise of fascism. Audiences were enchanted by Fred and Ginger, and Shirley Temple, while socially realistic movies, like Charlie Chaplin's *City Lights* and *Modern Times*, made them smile despite the darkness.

For the last decade, the dominant form of escape has been the superhero-super-effects-big-budget-CGI extravaganza. They don't bear much resemblance to an angel-faced child singing about the good ship *Lolly Pop*, but Superman, Batman and the whole Manichean world of action comics was a response to the same social conditions that gave birth to Busby Berkeley's spinning stages.

Our world — in which a literal super villain stirs up hatred on Twitter from a fortress of solitude in Gotham City while he waits to take the highest office in the land — may be no less complicated. In fact, our purveyors of escape might have to work harder.

"During the Depression, when the spirit of the people is lower than at any other time," President Franklin Roosevelt said in 1934, "it is a splendid thing that for just 15 cents an American can go to a movie and look at the smiling face of a baby and forget his troubles."

The ticket price is higher 82 years later. But I think the sentiment is the same, especially on Christmas Day when so many go see a movie to escape everything from their credit card statements to racist Uncle Gary who's staying for the holidays.

The lights go down, and it's magic.

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's *The Social*.



Ryan Gosling and Emma Stone in a scene from *La La Land*. LIONSGATE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

fetishizes, while wrapping its love story around the frustration of two artists holding out for truth and beauty amid a showbiz world enslaved to money."

"We'll see about that, Brian," I thought to myself just before a recent screening of the film. I stewed in my seat thinking about all the ways it would cheapen my love for the classic films I knew it would reference. Like *Bringing Up Baby* and *Casablanca*, which were both shot on the Warner Bros. lot where Mia (Emma Stone), an aspiring actress, works as a barista. Ryan Gosling plays Sebastian, a struggling musician who dreams of preserving the great American art of jazz. He introduces Mia, who equates jazz to Kenny G, to the artistry of Kenny Clark, among others.

at all times — even when he's playing the piano — I liked it. It was magical, like everyone said it would be, and the unexpected ending is seeped in ennui, just like my Christmas tree lights.

And here's the thing: I did feel manipulated, but somehow, with the cinema lights low, I didn't mind *La La Land* taking the lead in transporting me far away from the cynicism of 2016.

Chazelle is not clairvoyant: He's been trying to get *La La Land* made for five years, so the timing of its release this year, which by most accounts has been awful, is coincidental. But it's telling he that he mined vintage Hollywood to soothe a culture desperate to escape.

The genius of Hollywood filmmakers in the '30s was that they found beautiful

## VICKY MOCHAMA

### Trump politics aren't coming to Canada — they're already here

Donald Trump is already in Canada, and he can be found the heart and minds of Canadians. There's a tendency to think that Canada is safe from such phenomena. But based on the attitudes of Canadians, not only are we not free from it but also we're susceptible.

In Canada, the xenophobic and racist attitudes that propelled Trump aren't far beneath our "sunny ways" and "refugees welcome" surface.

Forum Research released a survey which found that of 1,304 Canadians, 41 per cent have an "unfavourable" feeling about one of the following groups: Muslims, First Nations, South Asians, Jews and black people. The use of the word "unfavourable" even feels like a way to shield racism, as if the KKK were merely an organ of unfavourable opinion.

Racist attitudes though aren't just hidden in seemingly innocuous phrasing, they're evident in what is perceived to be true. An exhaustive poll of global attitudes found that Canadians think that Muslims constitute 18 per cent of our population when, in fact, they're only three per cent of the country. Despite our progressive and multicultural self-image, Canadians vastly overestimate the population of Muslims. For example, Canadians think that in 2020 a full 26 per cent of the country will be Muslim when the population is expected to stay about the same as now. This notion of a vast-yet-ultimately-mythical population is what politicians of the Trump-Farage-

Leitch ilk rely on.

A CBC-Angus Reid poll found that 68 per cent of respondents felt that minorities should be doing more to fit in with mainstream society instead of keeping their own customs and values. In this, we are no better than our American neighbours. When the same questions was put to Americans, only 53 per cent felt the same way.

There is no question that racists in Canada have been emboldened by the events in the U.S. Racialized citizens across the country have been sharing their own stories of being attacked based on their (perceived) race. Last week, our colleague Irene Kuan shared how a man on the subway told her to "go back to Hong Kong." She is from Toronto.

The question is how do we prevent racial resentments from upsetting our democracy? Our institutions — schools, police, media, etc. — must acknowledge that they help perpetuate those attitudes. (Why does my industry only report the race of criminals when they are not white?)

Finally, white Canadians, including ethnic whites, need to publicly speak about their privileges and challenges. Racism thrives on asking non-whites to prove and adapt to their oppression while requiring little labour from those who most benefit.

Racism — overt and covert — remains pervasive. These surveys are proof of our past, but the attitudes found within need not be our future.

**The whole Manichean world of comics was a response to the same social conditions that gave us Busby Berkeley.**

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## Mulled wine and hot chocolate: Better together or a sludgy mess?

Some things just go together: Caramel and salt, tomato and oregano, and, according to this season's latest food fad, red wine and hot chocolate. But does this best-of-both-worlds beverage deserve its social-media star status? We enter our test kitchen to find out. GENNA BUCK/METRO

Armed with half a pound of chocolate, a bottle of red wine, and three colleagues as guinea pigs, the Metro Life staff set out to mix up our own version of 2016's trendy holiday drink: red wine hot chocolate.



in 200g of chopped dark chocolate (70 per cent cocoa). Once both were piping hot, we strained the wine into the chocolate mixture. And that's when things started to go a little side-

ways.

It's exactly what it sounds like — a combination of two beloved winter warmers which, for some reason, no one thought to put together before now. By the end of our experiment, we had a better idea of why.

First, we mulled two cups of red wine (Hardy's Shiraz Cabernet Sauvignon) with two heaping teaspoons of sugar, a few orange slices and a handful of spices — cinnamon sticks, freshly grated nutmeg, juniper, star anise and ancho chili.

In another pot, we heated a litre of two-per-cent milk to steaming and slowly stirred

No matter how much we stirred and sieved, the chocolate never fully melted, leaving us a drink with a curdled, chalky texture and a bracing, acidic taste: not exactly luxurious. Though, according to our section editor Emina Gamulin, "It grows on you."

We agreed the beverage would be better with a sweet milk chocolate, and a lot less of it.

In a moment of inspiration, we added a healthy glug of whipping cream to one of the mugs and zapped it in the microwave. That tasted more like something we'd want to drink in front of a roaring fire.



Metro Life's Emina Gamulin and Genna Buck made the drink that's been praised by food bloggers, Instagrammers — even the New York Times and Cosmo mag. METRO

As the instagrammers say, this treat is #sorich, but if you'd like to gild the lily, whipped cream or marsh-

mallows would be an ultimate garnish.

And it's the holidays, so why not both?

### INITIAL THOUGHTS

#### Vicky Mochama

Metro's daily columnist was intrigued. "Is this what the kids on Instagram are drinking?"



### VERDICT

Not impressed. "It has a porridge-like consistency."

#### Luke Simcoe

Our senior reporter turned down whipped cream and marshmallows: "Nothing you put on this is going to make me like it more."



"Wine and milk, together at last? That's just not a thing people say."

#### May Warren

Metro's city reporter is an adventurous eater. "I'm excited," she said before our taste test.



May pulled a pained face and said, "so disappointing."



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# Does this filter make my ears look big?

## CANDID CATMERA

### New app that helps your cat paws for the perfect selfie

**Kris Abel**  
For Metro Canada



Among cats, it's curiosity that leads to the best selfies. That's according to the makers of Candid Catmera, an iPhone and iPad app that uses virtual fish, mice, and laser pointers and others treats to entice your feline to come play in front of your mobile device.

"I like the one with the can-opener, opening up the can of food," says Jen Mete, the Halifax-based producer who worked on the app for Current Studios.

Getting a cat to stand in front of the lens is one thing, to make sure the camera catches them when they're looking the right way the app uses very sophisticated software.

"We affectionately refer to it as feline facial recognition," explains Mete. "It automatic-

ally takes a series of photos and analyzes the characteristics of the subject and only saves the ones of your cat to the gallery."

So you can take a selfie with your cat, for example, but your cat has to always be in the shot. It's a cat-only app.

"Like if I put my face up to it, it might take a photo," explains Mete, "but it won't save the photo because after it goes into the cat recognition filter, it'll decide that I am not a cat."

It's not just the need for pointed ears and whiskers, the software is built to recognize fur on faces too. But again, only feline ones.

"People ask 'Why don't we do

it for dogs?' well, actually it's a little trickier because dogs all have very different characteristics," says Mete. "But whereas cats all have fairly similar characteristics, so that really helped while building up our database of traits to track."

Once the app is running on your device, the app will snap cat selfies even if you're not home and send them to your phone for approval and sharing on social media.

For every copy of the app sold, \$1 goes to the SPCA whose cats helped test the technology.

"We spent a couple of days with them, testing out the app, and what I found pretty exciting is that they actually enjoyed playing with the app," says Mete. "I'm a huge advocate for animal welfare and it hits me on both sides, like professionally, what an incredible piece of technology while doing something wonderful for the cats as well."

Launched in time for the holidays, the creators are looking forward to seeing what people do with it.

Asked if the feline facial recognition system might have trouble with costumes Mete is confident the app will still work.



"As long as they don't cover the face, if they put a costume on their cat, a hotdog or a unicorn or something, as long as the app can still see the characteristics of their face, it should be fine."

**Candid Catmera uses high-tech feline facial recognition to help kitty take the perfect selfie — even when they're left alone.** CONTRIBUTED



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*Thank You! Well Wishes for the New Year.*

## LIQUID ASSETS PETER ROCKWELL



### Three perfect partners for the big bird

for those who like a hint of sweetness. Easy-drinking, and in-law friendly, with its cool window label design this German drinks as good as it looks.

**Lindemans 2014 Bin 65 Chardonnay (\$10.95-\$12.99):** Dry and lightly oaked, it's a Down Under white layered with bright tropical fruit and balanced acidity.

**Kim Crawford 2015 South Island Pinot Noir (\$19.95-\$21.99):** For the red lovers,

a New Zealander that combines ripe, New World flavours with old-school, European sophistication. From me to you, have a safe and happy holidays.

Prices reflect the range across the country. Some products may not be available in all provinces.

What wine goes with turkey? When you write about booze, you hear that question more than White Christmas at seasonal get-togethers. Truth be told, the big bird is pretty accommodating when it comes to a liquid partner. The ideal match is actually less about the meat and more about the side dishes which, on December 25th, can be anything from herbaceous and earthy to sweet and tangy. Here are three perfect, all-purpose pairings.

**Moselland 2014 Ars Vitis Riesling (\$11.95-\$15.99):** One



## FOODIE TRAILS

### Growing appetite for gastronomy getaways

There's no better way to soak up the culture of a country than through its food with global gastronomic festivals drawing more foodies eager to combine noshing and sipping while viewing the sights.

"Celebrity chefs and TV programs have played a huge role in gastronomy being a huge motivation for today's travellers," says Timothy Chan of G Adventures, a travel company founded by Bruce Poon Tip in Toronto in 1990. Canadian experts are leading food-centric tours to exotic locales.

Naomi Duguid has spent 25 years researching the cultural and culinary aspects of far-flung countries. Her most recent book, *Taste of Persia*, chronicles the rich heritage and culinary cross-influences in the region.

"You understand things through the food," says Duguid, who calls a tour she's leading to Chiang Mai in northern Thailand a "combo cooking-food-shopping-eating immersion course."

G Adventures is introducing 2017 trips to a Naples pizza fest, a Belgian beer tour and La Tomatina festival in Valencia, Spain.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



# Weaving a basket of festive delights



Adding cream cheese to your cookie dough helps to keep your Christmas cookies softer and lighter in texture with a tangier flavour too. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## RECIPE

### Nutty cookies forgiving for those without nimble fingers

Chocolatey and nutty with a fairly light texture thanks to the cream cheese, this recipe is adapted from this year's Better Homes and Gardens' Christmas Cookies issue.

They were originally pin-wheel shapes but the basket shape that comes from folding all the cookie flaps is also lovely. This shape is also more forgiving for those who don't have nimble fingers.

Cookie tip: Experiment with cream cheese in cookie dough by replacing 1/4 cup of the butter with the same amount of full fat cream cheese to get a softer, lighter texture with a soft tanginess.

#### Chocolate-Hazelnut Baskets

Makes 32 cookies.

#### Ingredients:

- 32 whole shelled hazelnuts
- 3/4 cup (185 mL) room temperature unsalted butter

- 1/4 cup (60 mL) softened cream cheese
- 2/3 cup (160 mL) granulated sugar
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) baking powder
- 1/4 tsp (1 mL) salt
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp (5 mL) vanilla extract
- 2 cups (500 mL) all-purpose flour
- 1/4 cup (60 mL) unsweetened cocoa powder
- 2/3 cup (160 mL) Nutella, chilled in fridge

#### Directions:

**1.** Spread hazelnuts in a shallow baking pan. Bake for 5 to 10 minutes, or until nuts are slightly browned and fragrant, shaking pan halfway to prevent burning. Let cool and rub off skins with paper towel. Set aside.

**2.** In a stand mixer with a paddle attachment at medium speed or a large bowl with a mixer on medium, beat butter and

cream cheese till fluffy, about 30 seconds. Add sugar, baking powder and salt. Mix for another 2 minutes, scraping down sides of bowl. Mix in egg and vanilla until well-incorporated. Divide dough in half.

**3.** Roll each dough ball into a 10-inch (25 cm) square between sheets of parchment paper on a clean work surface. Cut out 16, 2 1/2-inch (6 cm) squares. Place squares 1-inch (2.5 cm) apart on a lined baking sheet. Refrigerate for 30 minutes.

**4.** With a knife, cut 1-inch (2.5 cm) slits from each corner to centre. Spoon 1/2 teaspoon of Nutella into centre of each cookie. Fold every tip into centre to form a basket shape. Lightly press toasted hazelnut into centre where corners meet.

**5.** Bake at 350F (175 C) for 10 to 15 minutes or until edges are firm and edges are slightly puffed. Cool for 5 minutes before transferring to wire racks to cool completely.

**6.** Store in an airtight container for up to a week or freeze for up to a month.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



## ROSE REISMAN THE SAVVY EATER

THIS WEEK: Christmas caffeine kick

Cozying up with a festive drink can be like eating more than your fair share of dessert!

### PICK THIS

#### Starbucks Grande Holiday Spice Flat White (with 2% milk)

Calories 240  
Fat 7g  
Saturated Fat 4.5g  
Sugar 30g



### SKIP THIS

#### Starbucks Grande Eggnog Latte (with whole milk)

Calories 480  
Fat 21g  
Saturated Fat 13g  
Sugar 52g



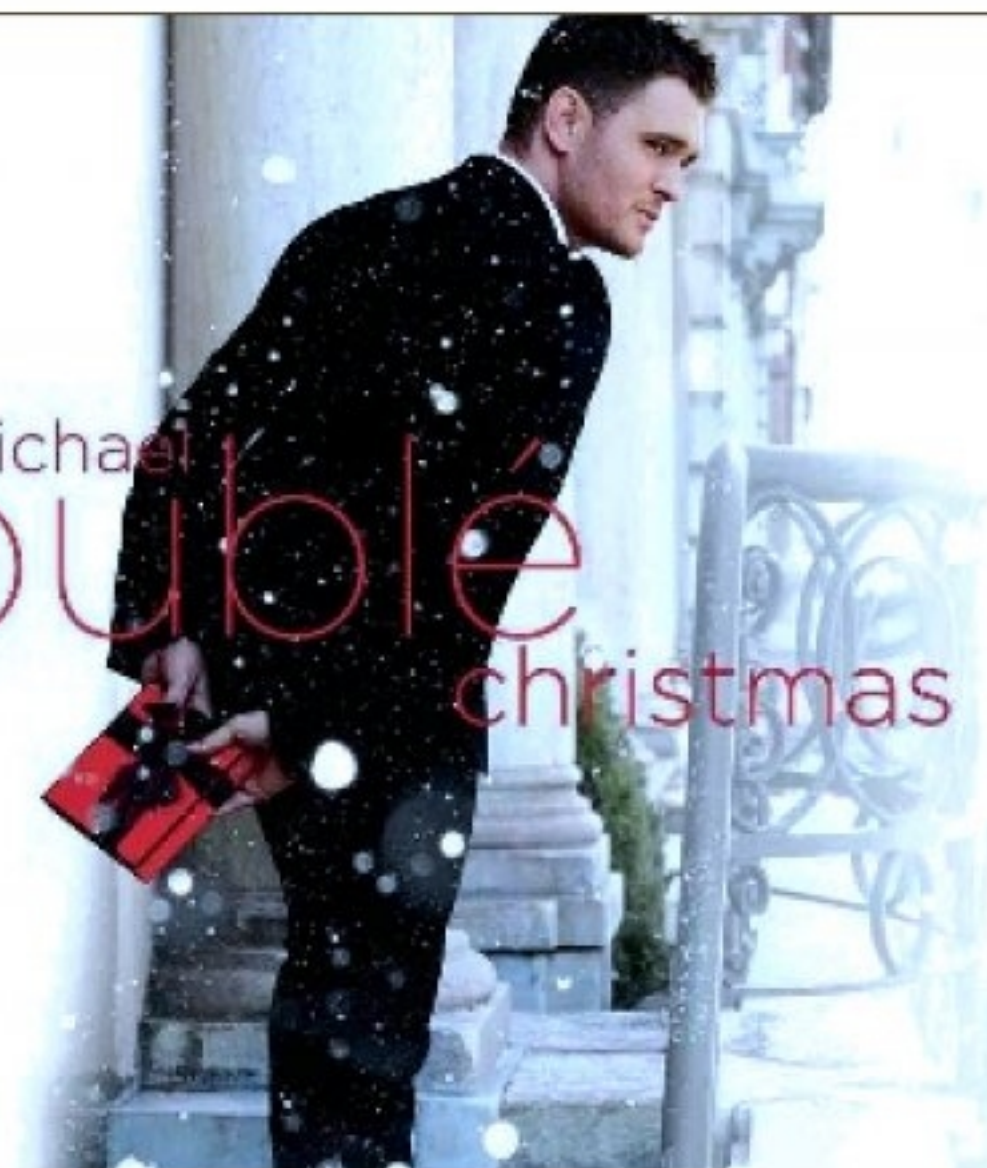
### HERE'S WHY



Equivalent to five Chapman's Vanilla Frozen Yogurt Bars in fat.

Seasonal beverages are a favourite part of the holidays for many, but beware of drinking your calories and fat. Eggnog is primarily made with whole milk or cream and egg yolks, which is loaded with saturated fats. The Holiday Spice Flat White gives you that festive flavour and feel with about half the calories and sugar, and a fraction of the fat and saturated fat.

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## Strong enough for most jobs



### REVIEW

#### Ridgeline's driving dynamics can't be beat

Stephen Elmer  
AutoGuide.com



Towing 5,000 pounds (2,268 kilograms) isn't what it used to be. The weight of steel and wood hasn't changed but the towing capabilities and capacities of the vehicles responsible for moving them sure have.

We have half-ton trucks that can pull about 5,500 kg, heavy-duty pickups that can move almost 14,000 kg and a new crop of midsize trucks that are as capable as last decade's half-tons. For most hauling needs, today's midsize pickup is more than enough, and with Honda's redesigned 2017 Ridgeline, you get a unique proposition in the segment.

Honda rates the Ridgeline to tow 2,268 kg, falling short of the Toyota Tacoma's 3,084-kg max rating and the Chevy Colorado's max rating of 3,493 kg, though in the payload department, the Ridgeline stacks up well. It is the only midsize pickup to use a multi-link independent rear suspension, rather than a leaf spring setup.

Canadian Ridgelines get all-wheel drive as standard equipment.

Spec for spec, Honda's small pickup is about on par with the competition on most fronts,

though it is the tow rating that falls short. Even if you're not pulling the limit every time you tow, having that extra capacity means that you're not stressing your truck as much when you pull.

So can the Ridgeline actually pull at its limit with confidence? We hitched up a large four-place snowmobile trailer that weighs in just shy of the Ridgeline's max capacity.

Easily the best part of the towing experience with the Ridgeline is the way the suspension soaks up all the weight with little issue. Despite the rear end squatting, the front wheels didn't feel light and the nose wasn't pointing straight up into the air. Side-to-side movement felt controlled, and even the trailer's weight couldn't push the truck around.

This translates into the cabin with nice, planted steering feel and little to no torque steer thanks in part to the all-wheel drive.

If the towing experience ended there, the Ridgeline would leave with a stellar report card. Unfortunately there are other parts of the package that are important as well, namely the brakes and the engine.

So it may not be the heavy lifter among its peers, but there is one aspect of the Ridgeline that is second to none: unladen driving dynamics. Thanks to a combination of factors including its unibody construction and independent suspension, the Ridgeline drives like a big Honda Accord on the road, offering absolutely none of the stiff, choppy ride most body-on-frame trucks have.

### THE CHECKLIST | 2017 HONDA RIDGELINE

#### THE BASICS

**Engine:** 3.5L V6  
**Power:** 280 hp and 262 lb-ft of torque  
**Transmission:** Six-speed automatic  
**Fuel Economy:** 12.8 L/100 km city, 9.5 L/100 km highway, 11.3 L/100 km combined  
**Price:** Starts at \$36,590 (destination included)



#### LOVE IT

- Stable dynamics with weight
- Great unladen drive
- Handy features

#### LEAVE IT

- Lack of integrated trailer brake
- No tow/haul mode
- A little more power would be nice

### NEW RELEASES

## 2018 Mercedes E-Class Coupe drops two doors to stunning effect



Jason Siu  
AutoGuide.com

Mercedes-Benz has introduced the all-new 2018 E-Class Coupe ahead of its public appearance at the 2017 Detroit Auto Show.

Heading to dealerships in summer 2017, the 2018 Mercedes-Benz E-Class Coupe is longer, wider and taller than its predecessor.

The stylish coupe also sits 3.3 inches taller. As a result, the larger footprint benefits passengers with extra space and

comfort, especially in terms of rear legroom, front and rear shoulder room, as well as rear headroom.

For the U.S. market, the E-Class Coupe will initially launch with the E400 and E400 4MATIC models, powered by a 3.0-litre biturbo V6 engine with 329 horsepower and 354 pound-feet of torque.

Both models are equipped as standard with the 9G-Tronic nine-speed automatic transmission, allowing the standard model to go zero-to-97 km/h in 5.2 seconds.

The 4MATIC all-wheel-drive variant does the sprint in 5.5 seconds.

The model will come standard with a central high-resolution COMAND display, and available as an option is the widescreen instrument cluster that is unique to the segment.

Buyers can also opt for an available Sport Package that adds edgier details like front and rear bumpers, as well as side skirts and larger AMG-style wheels.

The package also includes a different front grille with

chrome-tipped blocks and an AMG leather sports steering wheel for the cabin.

And since the E-Class Coupe comes standard with COMAND Navigation, it is also compatible with Apple CarPlay and Android Auto. Another highlight of the model is Drive Pilot, a system that represents Mercedes-Benz's next step to semi-autonomous driving. With Distance Pilot Distronic, the car is not only able to keep the correct distance behind vehicles in front on all types of road, but for the first time,

**“With its clear, aesthetic lines, our new E-Class Coupe appeals equally to the heart and mind.”**

Dr. Thomas Weber

it can also automatically follow them at a speed of up to 209 km/h.

Expect pricing for the 2018 Mercedes-Benz E-Class Coupe

to be announced closer to its launch in 2017.

“With its clear, aesthetic lines, our new E-Class Coupe appeals equally to the heart and mind,” said Prof. Dr. Thomas Weber, member of the board of management of Daimler AG and responsible for group research and Mercedes-Benz cars development. “It combines contemporary luxury, agile sportiness and high-tech engineering into an automotive personality with spirit, offering exclusive, refined driving pleasure.”



[chryslercanada.ca/offers](http://chryslercanada.ca/offers)



# Ferrari's supercar surprise stunner

## LUCID MOTORS AIR

### A head-turning debut

The Lucid Motors Air has debuted and it could be a real Tesla killer. Equipped with the largest battery pack in the automotive world, the Lucid Air has an optional 130-kWh battery to deliver an all-electric range of 643 kilometres. The company said a 100-kWh battery is standard but it's unclear what range that model offers.

JASON SIU/AUTOGUIDE.COM



## GOOGLE

### Meet Waymo

Alphabet, the parent company of Google, is introducing an all-new brand, Waymo, which will be responsible for the outfit's self-driving cars. The new company will be headed by John Krafcik, the same man who has been in charge of Google's self-driving car arm since 2015. According to Krafcik, the simple aim of Waymo is "to make it safe and easy for people and things to move around."

STEPHEN ELMER/AUTOGUIDE.COM



## WHEELS ROUNDUP

News driving the auto industry brought to you by AutoGuide.com

## FERRARI

### Only 10 J50s will be built

Ferrari made a surprise debut of a new supercar to commemorate the brand's 50th anniversary in Japan. Only 10 Ferrari J50s will be built, with each unit being bespoke to each customer. The Ferrari J50 is a two-seater, mid-rear-engine roadster that pays homage to the targa top Ferraris of the 1970s and 1980s. The Ferrari J50 starts life as a 488 Spider but gets churned through Ferrari's Special Projects department to become a completely new car. The J50 is powered by a 3.9-litre V8 and gets all-new bodywork that is both very futuristic while still having details that pay homage to the Italian brand's past. The most immediate differences between the Ferrari J50 and the 488 are the new LED headlights, the new carbon fiber air channels in the hood, and a completely new front bumper design.

JODI LAI/AUTOGUIDE.COM

## AUTOMATION

### Self-driving Uber caught breaking the law

It wasn't even 24 hours since Uber announced its self-driving car is available in San Francisco when it was caught on camera running a red light. Using Volvo XC90 SUVs and working with the Swedish automaker, Uber has launched a self-driving pilot in San Francisco. And within the first day of the announcement, at least one person has tweeted about seeing the self-driving Uber nearly hitting a car, while another person has posted a video showing the XC90 running a red light through an intersection with a pedestrian trying to cross the street.

JASON SIU/AUTOGUIDE.COM



## + IN BRIEF

### VW Microbus might return as an EV

Details about the second vehicle in Volkswagen's upcoming fleet of battery electric vehicles are slowly taking shape, and it looks like it will be a seven-passenger van based on the company's historic microbus. The second electric vehicle — call it the Electric Type 2, for simplicity's sake — will share the MEB platform that underpins VW's ID concept. That concept, which premiered at the Paris Auto Show, is the first car confirmed for the MEB platform. Like the ID, the Electric Type 2, will power the rear wheels from an engine placed between those same wheels.

SEBASTIEN BELL/AUTOGUIDE.COM





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# Matthews keeps it light amid pressure

NHL

## Maple Leafs rookie part of young core finding balance

Auston Matthews enters the final two games before the Christmas break leading his team in scoring and ranking among the best pure scorers in the game.

The Maple Leafs' rookie centre is seventh in goals per game among the NHL's top shooters. And while that's impressive enough for a 19-year-old just 31 games into his career, Matthews is ahead of established snipers like Vladimir Tarasenko and Alex Ovechkin.

Matthews stood confidently before the media Tuesday, following a tough 3-2 loss to Anaheim in which he scored his team-leading 15th goal. But the Leafs, Matthews included, were dominated in the faceoff circle by the NHL's best faceoff team, a sobering note for a young team full of speed and skill but still learning how to win. "No excuses," Matthews told reporters.

Confidence is a pivotal subject with Matthews. He has been placed in hockey's biggest, most intense market, with expectations of him becoming the franchise's next generational star. He seems to have the pressure part covered. He's surrounded by several other teenagers, all of whom are going



Auston Matthews has seen his ice time steadily increase — he's averaging 18:51 per game in December. STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

through the same development curve. And they tend to inject fun into their hockey lives as a measure of balance.

Take for instance a GIF that appeared on the NHL's Instagram account, showing Matthews and fellow rookie Mitch Marner entering the Air Canada Centre on Monday night looking like something out of *The Untouchables*. The clip quickly spread on social media, winding up, among other places, on Steven Stamkos's Twitter account.

"You saw it there, so they're

going to hear about it," Leafs winger James van Riemsdyk said, with a laugh, after the Leafs' practice Tuesday.

Leafs coach Mike Babcock had predicted that Matthews was going to be a dominant centre by Christmas. And he's giving his centre the ice time to realize that promise. Matthews' average time has increased each month — from 17:11 a game in October to 17:27 in November to 18:51 this month, including 19:58 the last five games. And Matthews has responded, following a

**“It's not easy your first year, so you go through the same learning curve together, you can talk about it together too.”**

Auston Matthews on playing with other rookies

NHL

## Ducks dominating battles at the dots

The Anaheim Ducks are masters of the draw this season.

The NHL's best faceoff team at 56 per cent, Anaheim put on a clinic Monday night in its 3-2 win over the Toronto Maple Leafs, winning 67 per cent of the total faceoffs (42 of 61), including 20 of 24 in the second period.

The game-winner came on a perfectly executed faceoff by veteran Ryan Kesler. Facing

rookie Maple Leafs centre Frederik Gauthier on his backhand, Kesler shuffled the draw directly to his right where Cam Fowler was waiting. The Ducks defenceman whipped the perfect faceoff win past Leafs goalie Frederik Andersen.

"I thought they dominated the circle against us," Leafs coach Mike Babcock said.

Antoine Vermette, far and away the league's best in the

**65.6**

Antoine Vermette leads the league in faceoff success, winning 65.6 per cent of the time.

circle, emerged on 86 per cent of his 21 draws against the Leafs, including 10 of 11 in the

defensive zone. The 34-year-old boasts a ridiculous 65.6 per cent success rate this season, well ahead of Jordan Staal in second place (61.1 per cent).

The former Ottawa Senator second-round pick ranks first in the NHL in the home confines of the Honda Center in Anaheim (67.4 per cent) and first on the road too (64.2 per cent).

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TENNIS

## Kvitova injured in attack with knife

Two-time Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova was injured by a knife-wielding attacker at her home on Tuesday and had to undergo surgery on her left hand.

An operation that took three hours and 45 minutes revealed that the left-handed player's injuries were "serious," but "there's no reason to think she wouldn't be able to play tennis," her spokesman Karel Tejkal said.

Kvitova will, however, miss the Australian Open and a significant part of the season as she won't be able to fully train for at least three months, Tejkal said.

Kvitova sustained damaged to the tendons in her left hand, along with injuries to all five fingers and two nerves, added

Tejkal, who described the incident as a burglary in the eastern Czech town of Prostějov.

"In my attempt to defend myself, I was badly injured on my left hand.

I am shaken, but fortunate to be alive," Kvitova wrote on Twitter.

"The injury is severe and I will need to see specialists, but if you know anything about me I am strong and I will fight this."

Police spokesman Frantisek Korinek said the male attacker escaped from the scene and was at large. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Petra Kvitova GETTY IMAGES

TENNIS

## Raonic has new coach in Krajicek

Canadian Milos Raonic officially made Richard Krajicek his new coach on Monday.

Raonic, from Thornhill, Ont., was looking for a new coach after parting ways with Spain's Carlos Moya earlier in December. Krajicek, who won his only Grand Slam title at Wimbledon in 1996, played a very similar style to Raonic, relying on his big serve throughout his career.

"Today was my first practice with Richard Krajicek. It's

great to have Richard, alongside my team, for the upcoming season in my attempt to reach new and higher goals in

2017," said Raonic in a post on his verified Instagram account. "I worked with Richard for a few days already last year before Australian Open and I am sure Richard with his experience and being a Wimbledon

champion can help me reach my goals. I look forward to doing great things together."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**3**  
Raonic is ranked third in the world.

### IN BRIEF

#### Crosby strikes again in Pens' rout over Rangers

Sidney Crosby picked up his NHL-leading 22nd goal, Evgeni Malkin added a goal and two assists and the Pittsburgh Penguins toppled the New York Rangers 7-2 on Tuesday night to move into a tie with the Rangers atop the crowded Metropolitan Division.

Matt Murray made 26 saves for the Penguins, who improved to 8-0-2 in December.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

#### BoSox deal Buchholz to Phils

The Boston Red Sox have traded right-hander Clay Buchholz to the Philadelphia Phillies for minor-league second baseman Josh Tobias.

Buchholz was the odd man out in a Boston rotation that added Chris Sale this off-season.

Buchholz, 32, is a two-time all-star but has been inconsistent through his career. He is 81-61 with a 3.96 ERA in 10 big-league seasons. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



# Ryan keeps Falcons soaring



Matt Ryan has the Atlanta Falcons flying high on their way to the playoffs. The team leads the NFL in scoring, and recently shattered the club's single-season scoring record — now 469 points — despite an injury to star wide receiver Julio Jones. KEVIN C. COX/GETTY IMAGES

NFL

## Atlanta's high scoring offence rolls on despite injury to Jones

The Atlanta Falcons can afford to be patient with Julio Jones' return from a sprained toe.

After all, there's no need to rush Jones' recovery after Atlanta topped 40 points in two straight lopsided wins without the star wide receiver.

These are heady times for the Falcons' offence, which already has obliterated the team's single-season scoring record with two games remaining in the regular season. The Falcons play at Carolina on Saturday.

Atlanta is the NFL's top-scoring team, and the race isn't even close. The Falcons (9-5) have 469 points, 63 more than the second-place Saints' 406.

Atlanta's players aren't saying much about the scoring record. They're focused on the more important race for the NFC South title. Atlanta is one game ahead of Tampa Bay in the division.

"If we have to score three

points or we have to score a lot of points, we just want to do our part in winning," right guard Chris Chester said Tuesday.

Jones watched from the sideline as the Falcons beat San Francisco 41-13 on Sunday to shatter the mark of 442 points set by the 1998 Super Bowl team. He also missed the previous week's 42-14 win at the Rams.



**If one guy goes down another guy steps in and we don't miss a beat.**

Justin Hardy

The Falcons' success has placed quarterback Matt Ryan in the MVP discussion. He has 32 touchdowns passes with only seven interceptions.

"For me, he's my MVP," running back Devonta Freeman said Tuesday.

Ryan has consistently distributed his passes to a large number of targets. Depth at receiver helped keep the offence moving even without

Jones.

Aldrick Robinson led the team with a personal-best 111 yards receiving on four catches against the 49ers. Taylor Gabriel added three catches for 60 yards, including his team-leading sixth touchdown reception.

"It shows the depth that we have by having each other's back," said receiver Justin Hardy. "If one guy goes down, another guy steps in and we don't miss a beat. It says a lot about the team and the character we have."

The Falcons also have good depth at running back with Freeman, who ran for three touchdowns against the 49ers, and Tevin Coleman sharing the carries.

"I think definitely this year it has been fun to see so many people step up and make big plays and that's been a really exciting part of our offence," said centre Alex Mack. "It's not just one guy having a great season. It's a lot of guys doing a lot of good things all over the field a lot of times."

Jones ran routes at the start of practice on Tuesday and is expected to give the toe a full-speed test on Wednesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AARON HERNANDEZ TRIAL

## Victim names ex-Pats star as triggerman

A man who survived a deadly 2012 drive-by shooting in Boston has identified former New England Patriots star Aaron Hernandez as the triggerman.

Prosecutors on Tuesday asked Raychides Sanches to describe the chaotic scene during a hearing in Suffolk Superior Court.

When asked who the shooter was, Sanches said "Hernandez" and nodded in his direction.

Sanches made the identification at a pretrial hearing for Hernandez, who is charged in the deaths of Safiro Furtado and Daniel de Abreu.

Prosecutors say Hernandez gunned down the men after one of them bumped into him at a nightclub. He has pleaded not guilty.

Hernandez already is serving a life sentence for the 2013 killing of Odin Lloyd.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## IN BRIEF

### Sports community pays tribute to colourful Sager

Longtime TNT broadcaster Craig Sager was remembered for his love of family, sports and colourful attire at a memorial service Tuesday that produced laughs and tears.

Among those attending the service were San Antonio Spurs coach Gregg Popovich and members of Sager's Turner Sports TV family, including Ernie Johnson and Reggie Miller.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Abrams steps down as Alouettes assistant GM

Joey Abrams stepped down Tuesday as the Montreal Alouettes assistant general manager. Abrams spent 12 seasons with the Alouettes, the last year as assistant to former GM Jim Popp. His decision to leave comes after Montreal promoted Kavis Reed, an assistant coach the last two years, to the general manager's position. Reed is reportedly considering Joe Mack to be his assistant.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CRICKET

## England continues losing ways in India

England's losing tour of India ended in further failure on Tuesday when the tourists collapsed to an innings and 75-run loss in the fifth test in Chennai.

Well placed at 167-4 going into the final session and playing for an honourable draw, England lost six wickets for 40 runs to lose the five-match series 4-0.

India dominated throughout the series, with effective spin bowling while its batsmen exerted complete domination

over England's spinners.

On Tuesday, Ravindra Jadeja took 7-48, his sixth five-wicket haul and his career-best in test cricket, as the visitors collapsed.

The first test in Rajkot ended in a draw and India won the second test in Visakhapatnam by 246 runs, as well as the third test in Mohali by eight wickets.

They won the series with an innings and 36-run win in Mumbai.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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MAKE IT TONIGHT

# Jazzed-up Tuna Melt



PHOTO: MAYA VISNVEI

**Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh**  
For Metro Canada

You can prep the addictive ingredients of this jazzed-up tuna melt in the time it takes your oven to pre-heat.

**Ready in 10 minutes**

Prep time: 10 minutes  
Serves 2

**Ingredients**

- 2 whole wheat pita breads
- 1 can tuna
- 1/3 cup diced Granny Smith apple
- 1/3 cup diced celery
- 1/8 cup diced cornichon or dill pickle
- 1 Tbsp mayonnaise
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 cup grated cheddar

**Directions**

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

2. In a large bowl, mix together the tuna, apple celery, pickle and mayo until it is well combined. Season with salt and pepper.

3. Spread mixture across pitas. Leave a small border around edge the way you do with pizza — it makes it easier to pick up and eat.

4. Sprinkle the cheese evenly across both pitas. Place the pitas on a baking sheet.

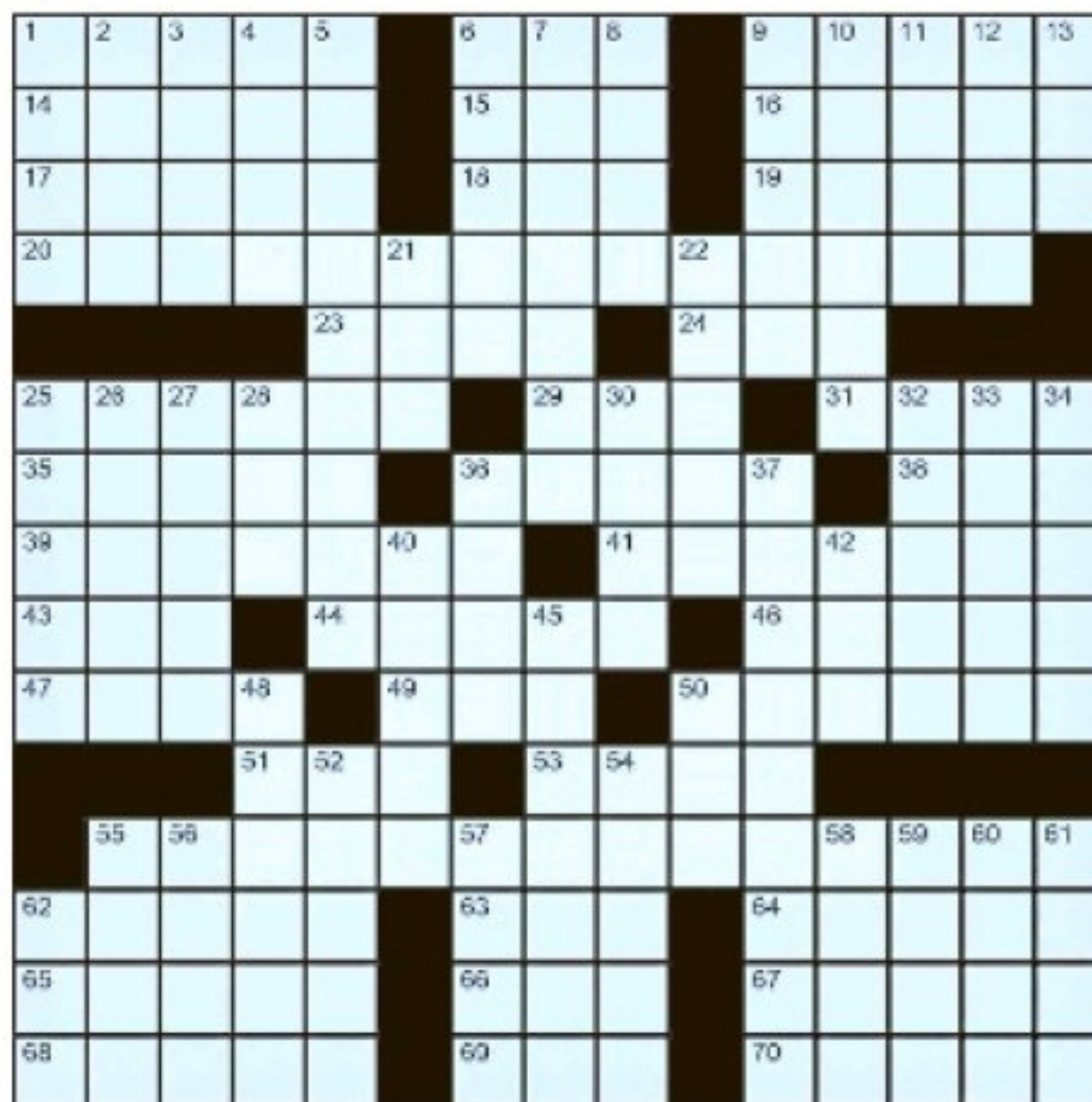
5. Pop in the hot oven for about 10 minutes until the cheese is completely melted and the edges of the pitas are toasty brown.

6. Remove from oven and cool for a couple of minutes before cutting each pita into quarters.

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## CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



**ACROSS**

1. Abu \_\_ (United Arab Emirates capital)
6. Perform on Broadway
9. Wharfs
14. Keepsake of yore
15. Oslo's li'l locale
16. Remove a toque
17. Alvin \_\_ American Dance Theater
18. Universal principle
19. Turkey treatment
20. Christmas meal condiment: 2 wds.
23. Some deer
24. Howdys
25. Does better than F
29. Christmas \_\_
31. Christmas servings
35. Ancient seaport of Rome
36. Pew user's supports
38. Opening
39. Ghost of Christmas Past, for one
41. Vexing
43. Commandments number
44. Every 60 minutes
46. Ancient column style
47. Winter hill surface
49. \_\_Margret
50. Musical compositions
51. Daily time segments, briefly
53. Racing's 'Romeo'
55. Popular buys during the festive season: 3 wds.

62. Soil fertilizers
63. Globe
64. Blue \_\_ (Canadian band)
65. Ram's sign
66. Long-snouted fish
67. \_\_ days
68. Rene Descartes: "Je \_\_, donc je suis." (I think,

- therefore I am)
69. "I \_\_ Rock" by Simon & Garfunkel
70. Rug-making apparatuses

**DOWN**

1. Bram Stoker's li'l vampire
2. Prince Charles,

- for one
3. Teatro \_\_ Scala (Milan opera house)
4. "Tres \_\_"
5. Visible sign from the stepping-outside-person that it's really cold out there: 2 wds.
6. Cavern
7. Become rough

8. Brad Pitt's ancient film
9. Persian Gulf emirate
10. Forward-moving surge
11. Swanky
12. "Citizen \_\_" (1941)
13. Sault \_\_, Marie, Ontario

21. Greek dawn goddess
22. \_\_ hosiery
25. Stations
26. Tree beavers like
27. Shorthand, for short
28. As written
30. Wedding dress extra
32. Contests of ancient Greece
33. Ms. Van Doren
34. Eyeglasses, fun-style
36. Musicals composer Jerome
37. CSP = Canadian \_\_ (Rescue/first aid service on Winter mountains)
40. \_\_ turkey
42. Old French coin
45. 'Noel' as Leon ...or... 'Tinsel' as Silent
48. Narwhals and Bowheads
50. Switch selection
52. Russian, in the French language
54. Astrology sign
55. Plain
56. Ireland, to a poet
57. \_\_ pants (Casual/fitness wear)
58. Alone
59. Produce Department selection
60. Abound
61. Some of "The Brady Bunch"
62. Blueprint

## \* IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

**Aries** March 21 - April 20  
For the next month, the Sun is at the top of your chart, shining a flattering light on you. This makes you look great in the eyes of bosses, parents and VIPs. Yay!

**Taurus** April 21 - May 21  
Do whatever you can to get out of town and experience a change of scenery during the next month, because you need this! You're eager for stimulation and new experiences.

**Gemini** May 22 - June 21  
You will be intense about everything in the next four weeks. However, this is a good time to wrap up loose ends with inheritances, taxes and shared property.

**Cancer** June 22 - July 23  
Partnerships and friendships are on your mind for the next month. Many of you will run into ex-partners at this time.

**Leo** July 24 - Aug. 23  
Your efficiency at work might suffer now because of Mercury retrograde. Nevertheless, you will do your best to be on top of your game during the next four weeks.

**Virgo** Aug. 24 - Sept. 23  
During the month ahead, you'll want to play! Vacations, romantic escapes, sports events, the arts and playful times with children will be tops on your list.

**Libra** Sept. 24 - Oct. 23  
Home, family and your private life will demand your attention during the next four weeks. Many of you are in contact with relatives whom you haven't seen in a while.

**Scorpio** Oct. 24 - Nov. 22  
The pace of your days in the month ahead will accelerate — there's no question about it. Life will be busy with short trips and errands, plus increased reading, writing and studying.

**Sagittarius** Nov. 23 - Dec. 21  
The pace of your days will accelerate during the next four weeks, because you will be busy with short trips and many errands. Gear up for this busier schedule.

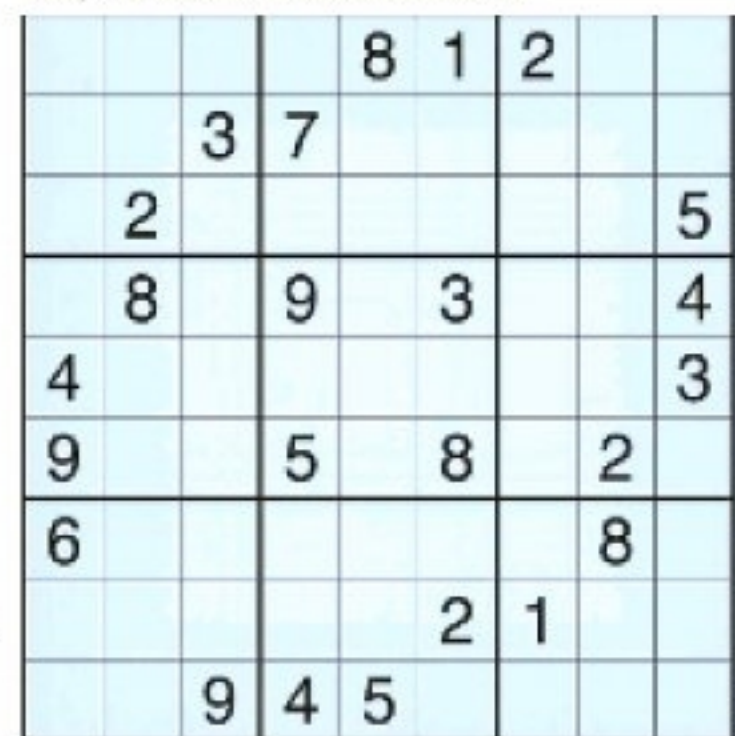
**Capricorn** Dec. 22 - Jan. 20  
The Sun will be in your sign for the next four weeks, energizing you in a wonderful way. This will attract people to you, especially people from your past!

**Aquarius** Jan. 21 - Feb. 19  
This is a lovely time for you to buy wardrobe items. It's also a great time to do research of any kind. Make plans behind the scenes for your coming year ahead.

**Pisces** Feb. 20 - March 20  
Enjoy increased popularity with others in the next four weeks. People want to see you and be part of your world. (It's nice to be loved.)

## CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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7	1	3	5	6	2	9	8	4
8	9	2	7	4	1	3	5	6
4	6	5	8	3	9	2	7	1
6	2	1	3	5	4	8	9	7
5	3	7	9	8	6	4	1	2
9	8	4	2	1	7	5	6	3
3	4	9	1	7	8	6	2	5
1	5	8	6	2	3	7	4	9
2	7	6	4	9	5	1	3	8





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